

Great Salt Lake Water Quality Steering Committee Meeting Summary (11/2/2004)

Consensus-based Decision Making

Mr. Baker talked about votes on procedural matters. There needs to be a supermajority (3/4) for approving substantive matters. If not, all opinions will be advanced to the Water Quality Board. If there is a supermajority only the majority opinion will be forwarded. Elements of fairness need to be maintained and all issues will be open to discussion. In order to move a position forward a supermajority of those attending the meeting is needed for substantive issues and 2/3 for procedural issues. In order to conduct meetings in an orderly matter, members need to raise their hands and wait until invited to speak.

Summary of Water Quality Standards Workgroup Process Comments

(Kevin Murray)

In regard to your request for "hot topics," I understood that formation of this group grew out of the triennial review process. As part of that process DWQ identified as areas of discussion e coli, TDS and stream classification. It seems to me that since the division has already identified these as priorities that they should be the first items addressed by the group. Since we have limited time for this exercise I doubt we can deal with all of the issues that are "hot" to various parties and that time would be better spent **first addressing those matters determined by the agency as of importance.**

(Lisa Kirschner)

On a related note, EPA has repeatedly stated that Utah's current antidegradation rule meets minimum federal requirements, i.e., consistent with statutory requirements under the Utah Water Quality Act. Rather than start with addressing sweeping program changes (such as antidegradation) that will require substantial research and legal assessment, the Utah Mining Association believes DWQ (and the Workgroup) should **begin by analyzing those issues DWQ prioritized in the withdrawn 2006 rulemaking.** Once the Workgroup is able to review those pressing program issues and make corresponding recommendations, if any, the group can then address other program issues provided they are selected and discussed pursuant to a pre-established protocol (as outlined in the letter sent to you from the Utah Mining Association, the Utah Manufacturers Association, the Utah Farm Bureau and the Utah Food Industries Association, dated September 6, 2007).

(See attachment of Letter regarding Water Quality Workgroup Meeting Protocol)